



The MINUTEMAN

Official Newsletter of the Minuteman Repeater Association

The President's Corner

Andy Morrison, N1BHI

Boxboro was quite the affair this year; the weather was perfect, and Saturday brought a lot of hams to the convention. In fact, there were enough that walked by our table to make our raffle ticket sales sufficient to put the latest raffle into the black by over \$500. We had our drawing at 1400 on Sunday; the winner was John Bergeron from Cape Elizabeth, Maine. I'd like to thank those who helped us at the MMRA table....Dick, KA1TOZ, Frank, KB1FZ, Al, KA1AKD, Frank and Dottie, W1JDO and N1BHA and Jack, N1JAH all spent time keeping our operation manned. Frank, W1JDO, kept everyone from getting lost with an excellent talkin operation; Walter, N1HBR, spent both days from early in the morning until the last hurrah, and provided equipment for the talkin station. Frank, KB1FZ, spent most of Saturday with us selling tickets. That means that our total raffle take is in the order of \$2100 - and wouldn't you know it, we almost had an IFR1200 for \$1836...AT and T Capital Corporation advertised one at that price, but by the time we called it was gone. So if any of you out there get any fliers or advertisement that might point us at a good deal, let me or Walter, N1HBR know about it quickly.

Our November meeting will feature Dave Potter, K1MBO, talking about a subject that we all have an interest in. Dave is going to talk about what's involved in self-policing in the amateur radio service. He will be discussing the Official Observer Program and the Amateur Auxiliary, focusing on their objectives and how they can be met. He'll talk about evidence gathering in cases of interference and/or bootlegging along with how to successfully mount cooperative efforts to resolve operating or technical problems. This should be an interesting program; the OO Program and the Amateur Auxiliary are both things that

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the MMRA and individual hams should support. The more we know about them the more we can help. So come to the meeting, it will start at 7:30 at the Campion Center in Weston on Monday, November 9. We have confirmation for March 20, 1993 for the Flea Market at the Westboro High School. It should be a good date; we will be starting to publicize it and contact potential vendors during the rest of this month and November. So keep that date in mind, and if you can spare a Saturday, come and give us a hand running it - helpers get free admission, of course, and free refreshments...not to mention first look at what is coming through the door to be sold.

Items of Interest

**Mark your calendar now for the
Second meeting of the 1992-1993
Year:**

***Monday November 9
Campion Center Weston
7:30 pm***

***Guest Speaker: K1MBO
The Official Observer Program
&
The Amateur Auxilliary***

Don't Forget to Renew Your Membership this Month !!!

A Membership for is included in this issue. Be sure to return it soon so you can receive the updated autopatch codes when they are changed!!

Reporting Emergencies on the Autopatch

Mike Ryan N1KRJ

I have been a Police Officer for the city of Marlboro for 15 years. I frequently hear people using the Emergency phone lines to report non-emergency situations to the Police, thus occupying the time and resources of the department while an actual emergency might occur. The majority of the calls to the Police Department are over the Emergency lines. When all of the lines are in use, the Dispatcher has to screen incoming calls for priority handling. When this happens, real emergency calls (i.e. motor vehicle accidents with personal injury or cardiac arrest calls) are delayed. We all know how critical time is when someone's life is on the line. When you see a motor vehicle on the side of the road with the hood up (indicating a mechanical problem) or a person changing a flat tire, please do not use the Emergency phone numbers to call for assistance. Remember, your attempt at being a helpful citizen in a non-emergency situation may cost a real emergency from being handled in timely manner!

When an accident is reported to the Police, the Police will summon an ambulance and the Fire Company to respond also. The rapid response of all of these units speeding to an accident scene consumes the resources of these teams. If there is not a real emergency, then you have not only risked the possibility of delaying response to a real emergency, but you have place those teams at risk unnecessarily also since must usually rush through traffic.

Considering the burden on the local authorities to respond immediately to these situations, please use your common sense when reporting emergencies on the Emergency line.

Ham Radio Calendar - Important Dates

Sat Nov 7	ARRL SS CW
Mon Nov 9	MMRA Meeting
Sat Nov 14	MMRA VE Session
Sat Nov 21	ARRL SS SSB
Sat Nov 28	CQ WW CW
Sat Dec 12	ARRL 10m Contest
Sat Dec 19	MMRA VE Session
Sat Jan 9	MMRA VE Session
Mon Jan 11	MMRA Meeting

The increased availability of autopatches is welcomed by the Police we encourage the use of the autopatch whenever assistance is needed. Please use the non-emergency numbers when reporting non-emergencies. I have included a list of the non-emergency numbers for most of the local communities with this article. Please clip it out and keep it handy in your vehicle. Please keep current on the autoatch codes and keep them handy in your vehicle also. When there is an Emergency, your mind will become pre-occupied and your memory of the codes for all of the machines might not be clear. Practice the autopatch once in a while also. During off-peak hours of the repeater, make a call every once in a while so you know the procedure.

When you do call in an emergency, remember that you will be talking to a dispatcher who might not understand Q-signals, so avoid using QTH, QSL, QRJ, etc.... It is wise to inform the Dispatcher that you are a Ham using an autopatch and make sure he is copying you ok before you get too long-winded reporting the situation.

If you are on an interstate and need to report a situation, please don't hesitate to use the number for the local authorities who can relay to the State Authorities if necessary.

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Non-Emergency Numbers

Acton	(508) 263-2911
Ashland	(508) 881-1212
Berlin	(508) 838-7355
Bellerica	(508) 667-1212
Bolton	(508) 779-2276
Chelmsford	(508) 256-2521
Clinton	(508) 365-4111
Concord	(508) 369-7400
Foxboro	(508) 543-4343
Framingham	(508) 872-1212
Franklin	(508) 528-1212
Hopkinton	(508) 435-3401
Hudson	(508) 562-7122
Lowell	(508) 937-3200
Marlboro	(508) 485-1212
Milford	(508) 473-1113
Natick	(508) 651-7283
Needham	(617) 444-1212
Newton	(617) 552-7240
Northboro	(508) 393-1515
Southboro	(508) 485-2121
Waltham	(617) 893-3700
Wayland	(508) 358-4721
MA State Police	
Troop E Weston	(617) 237-2931

Remember that some repeaters are in the (508) area code and some are in the (617) area code, so you will need to dial a 1+(area code) during Bay State Service hours if the number is outside of the repeater's area code..

Finally, if you do decide to stop and assist with communications at an accident scene, stay cool, speak slowly and clearly and give as much accurate information as possible. Remember, just the facts!

WB1GOF Repeater

Bob Levine KD1GG

While we're on the subject of reporting emergencies via Ham Radio, this article will describe an easy way to access the authorities on the northern section of I495. The Police Amateur Radio Team (PART) of Westford has put WB1GOF/R on the air. The WB1GOF machine can be found on 442.450 (+5mhz) and is currently not PL'ed, but a PL of 88.5 can be activated if needed. The machine has been on the air since 8/24/92. To check to see how good you are "making" the repeater, tune in the frequency and transmit a 8 dtmf code for at least one second and the repeater's voice will read back your signal strength. Don't forget to ID

when you run the test. This repeater offers unique emergency services in the same manner as the traditional 146.52. The Emergency Autodial is turned ON with the following codes:

Code	Police Dept.	Rpt Voice says:
*910	Westford PD	WPD
*911	MA St. Pol. Concord	MSP
*912	Littleton	LTPD
*913	Acton	ACPD
*914	Lowell	LOPD
*915	Tyngsboro	TYPD
*916	Groton	GRPD
*917	Chelmsford	CHPD
*918	Carlisle	CAPD
*919	NH St. Police	NHSP
*21	Merrimack AAA Emergency Road Svc.	

To HANG UP, use the # key. Remember that the repeater has to be able to hear you to process these calls. An S7/S9 is generally not considered to be acceptable phone patch quality.

PART (Police Amateur Radio Team) is an ARRL Special Services Club and is open to any person interested in the many varied activities of Amateur Radio as well as the operation of WB1GOF/R.

For more information about PART, contact Terry KA8SCP at (508) 692-2069 or by KA8SCP@WA1PHY.#EMA.MA.

This information was condensed from the "WB1GOF/R Repeater is on the Air" flyer distributed at Deerfield.

JOE...KC1D

PETE...KI1M

NANCY...N1CXC

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(603) 434-5371

8 LONDONDERRY ROAD

DERRY, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03038

Ham Radio Telephone BBS'ing

Bob Levine KD1GG

There are several telephone BBS's in the area that are of special interest to Hams. Several have dedicated file areas where you can find Public Domain and Shareware programs for Ham applications. Several packet programs, radio modifications, logging programs, and much more are available. Most of the land line BBS's run from 1200 - 9600 baud with several running 14,400 baud. Most of them are owned by individuals (several Hams) and the owners usually ask for a very small yearly fee for access to their boards. GIANT BBS is one of 3 that I log into almost daily. You might also find some useful software and information there also.

Giant BBS of Westford Ma.

Joe Castagno WB1CMM

Well for those of you who have never called a BBS this will be a real experience. And for those of you who have called many systems it will be a pleasant surprise.

The Giant BBS was started mostly because I thought it would be nice for people to have a fairly large system to call locally. The BBS now has about 2.4 Gigabytes of files online at this time and many new ones each day. There are three lines to call so there should be very few times you get the classic busy signal. I also require people to use their real names which makes life a lot easier.

The system consists of three computers (a 486-33 a 386-33 and a 386-16) all linked together using the Lantastic Network. The Modem lines range from 2400 baud to a fast 14,400 baud. These computers are completely dedicated to the BBS - no kids playing games or anything like that.

Special Features

The BBS has many online doors which will enable you to branch out from the BBS to do other things, one of the doors of interest to Ham would be the Call Book Door. This door will enable a Ham to look up the call of another Ham in a very few seconds. It also will let you look up by zipcode, last name, street, town, or what ever.

For those of you interested in Packet communications like myself you will find the latest Packet shareware online at all times. There are also many programs for the would be Ham as well.

I believe this system is also special because I take requests. If a person has joined the system and he is looking for a certain type of shareware, I will try to locate it for him or her and place it on the board for download by all. I try to run the system a professional manner and when problems arise I try to fix them within 24 hours.

Another feature of the board is the conference section or Echo Mail Section . I am happy to say that I carry over 200 conferences to date and more in the future. You may say to yourself, What is a conference and what can it do for me....Well A conference is a special area in which people will discuss the topic of that particular conference be it Ham Radio or Windows 3.1 or whatever. The name of the conference will usually tell you what the topic is. After you leave a message there be it a question a certain subject or maybe an answer to someone else's question you will receive a response...usually in a few days. Now you maybe asking yourself WHO will see it....Well this particular mail system (Called RELAY NET) is transferred all over the world...Yes all over the World. Relay net is comprised of about 2000 or so BBS's that help to channel the mail from Japan to England and beyond.

You may then say to yourself...Well I'm A ham and I can talk all over the world so why should I call this system..Well in part that's true but look at it this way you have more access to more people all at once. I have found that really helps me when I have a question relating to a special topic, a problem with equipment, or whatever.

I HAVE NEVER CALL A BBS BEFORE WHAT DO I DO ?

To call and log in is very simple first of course you need a computer and a terminal program. Once you make contact by phone you will be prompted for your name and a password you would like to use then you will be asked a few simple questions and you're there.

Minuteman Repeater Association, Inc.
P. O. Box 2282
Lexington, MA 02173

A Non-Profit Communications Organization Serving the Public in Time of Emergency.

-Application for Membership-

- ☐ New or ☐ Renewal
☐ Individual Membership (Dues \$25 per year) ☐ Family Membership (Dues: \$35 per year)
☐ Novice Membership (1st year dues: \$10)

I hereby apply for Membership in the MINUTEMAN REPEATER ASSOCIATION, INC. I agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the Association as stated in the By-Laws, and understand that acceptance of this application entitles me to all rights and privileges of membership as provided under the By-Laws.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Callsign: _____ Class of Lic: _____

Home Address: _____

Member of: ARRL? _____ Other Clubs? _____

Equipment Available for Your Use:

Type	No.	Mobil	Port.	Fixed	DTMF	FM	SSB	Packet	CW	Patch	Rtty
HF	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
VHF	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
UHF	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I can and am willing to assist/serve the Association an/or help maintain the Repeaters in the following ways (check all appropriate boxes)

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Antennas | <input type="checkbox"/> Flea Market | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Service | <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Receiver | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Aid | <input type="checkbox"/> Education: | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Documentation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Xmitter | <input type="checkbox"/> Refreshment | <input type="checkbox"/> CW <input type="checkbox"/> Theory | <input type="checkbox"/> Schematic Drawing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Logic | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Aid | <input type="checkbox"/> Tech Committee-Rptr: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Projects | <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Set-up | <input type="checkbox"/> Control Op.-Rptr: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity | <input type="checkbox"/> Assoc. Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Bldg Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Bd of Directors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment Construction | | <input type="checkbox"/> Field Day | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Comm. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VE Team(Adv/Extra) | | <input type="checkbox"/> Other-Specify: _____ | |

Please return this form with your Dues to: MMRA
PO Box 2282
Lexington, MA 02173

Minuteman Repeater Association
P. O. Box 2282
Lexington, MA 02173

M.M.R.A

MMRA Members

Date: November 1, 1992

Fellow MMRA Member:

Once again, we are beginning a new membership year for the MMRA. We hope that you will continue to support and be active in the organization.

This year the club will be making further improvements in our repeater systems, sponsoring a VE program and hopefully beginning an educational program for new hams and upgrades. Other activities we plan are the Flea Market in March and Field Day. We may also be able to get some fox hunts organized.

We need more than just your dues; we need help doing these things. If you can spare the time, let us know....remember, our Board of Directors meetings are open to members. So if you have something to contribute, or just want to listen in, you are welcome. You can contact me for details.

If your schedule does not permit direct involvement with club activities, we still value your support as a member; only through the continued interest of our membership can we continue to serve the general amateur community.

When renewing your membership, take a few moments to check the information requested on the form on the reverse side of this letter; if anything has changed, please let us know.

Hope to see you soon....



Andrew L. Morrison

President, Minuteman Repeater Association

FALL / WINTER SALE

PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFTS !

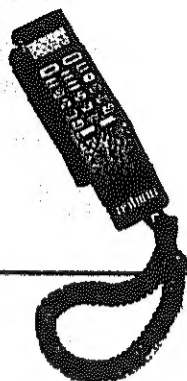
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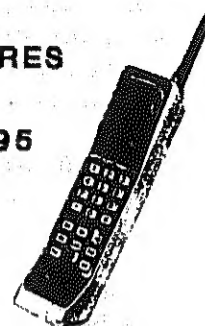


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All of the menus have help screens and that should guide you through your first session. Most of the programs online are for the IBM or compatible. Although I do have some for the MAC and Amiga as well.

To help you get a feel for the system with dishing out a yearly fee I have setup up a special account where you can log on. Then you must leave me a message telling me you are a ham and also tell me your call sign you will be allowed to use the system for two weeks free of charge. After that you will be expected to join.

I am working with the MMRA to discuss a special rate for Hams and also a special group Rate as well.

As system operator I have been a HAM for 15 years and have been involved with computers as a hobby for 13 years. The system is online 24 hours a day and all Hams are welcome.

Below are two line that will be used for this special trial period.

line 1 508-692-4705 2400 baud

line 2 508-692-4708 2400 to 14,400 baud

Joe has set up an account for you to try out his BBS. Log in as "Guest User" with no password. You can try stuff out but you can't send mail as real names are required. - KD1GG

Editor's Column

Bob Levine KD1GG

I was a bit disappointed in the lack of response from my request last issue for material for the newsletter. No one volunteered to write any articles. With almost 400 memberships, I was hoping for some assistance in preparing the newsletter. As you can see, I was successful in obtaining some advertising for the Minuteman. These advertisers will be hesitant to support our newsletters in the future if they lack content. Please try to come up with something you are interested in and write an article about it.

Regarding the advertisers, please try to remember to thank them when you have the opportunity to purchase their products for the contribution to our club. That will not only reinforce our appreciation, but will also let

them know that their advertising dollars are being well spent.

Have anything you want to sell/buy? I will also publish a Classified Page in the Minuteman if there are some responses. Ads will be published for free for MMRA members. Maybe we should have an honor system commission policy like the Want Advertiser™ in the future if there is sufficient interest to help offset the newsletter publication/ mailing cost. Any comments?

The MMRA VE Team

Bob Levine KD1GG

The MMRA VE Team held its first session on October 10th. We had 12 candidates registered and 11 showed up. There were 30 examinations given which resulted in 4 new hams (3 Technicians and 1 Extra) and 5 upgrades. Congratulations to all who passed exams.

Currently the VE Team is composed of:

Ira WA1W, Joel WU1F, Mark AA1DT, Steve K1ST, Mark WI1W, Ron N6CJM, Lou KD1KF, Bill K1IJZ, Dave KD1GH, and myself. If you are an Advanced or an Extra Class Ham and would like to participate on the team, please contact me. If you are not already a VE, I will assist you in getting your VE credentials from the ARRL.

The VE Schedule for future exams is:

14-November, 19-December for 1992 and the second Saturday of the month for January - May 1993. (9-January, 13-February, 13-March, 10-April, 8-May) All exams are at the Marlboro Public Library and we ask candidates to arrive at 9:00am. We will provide the newest version of the 610. (This new version is now required for Physician Code Waivers)

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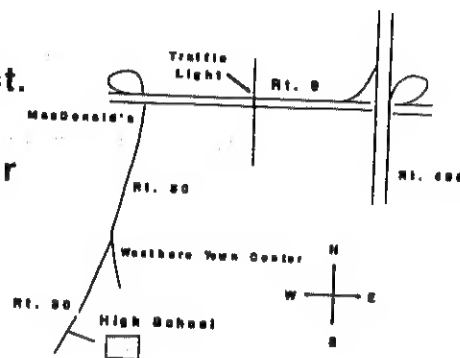
Amateur Radio Flea Market

Minuteman Repeater Association

March 20, 1993

Location:

From Rt 495 take Rt 9 west to Rt 30 West.
Take Rt 30 West into Westboro Center.
High School is on left about 1/4 mile after
traffic circle in center of town. Rt 30
goes straight ahead from town center



Vendors

Buyers

Doors open at: 8:00 AM

10:00 AM

Close at 2:00 PM

Admission: \$2.00 for buyers

	Tables:	Floor space 3' x 6'
If paid for by March 15:	\$10.00	\$5.00
At the door:	\$15.00	\$8.00

One free
Admission with
each table or space

Send Table Order to:

MMRA
P.O. Box 2282
Lexington, MA 02173

For Info call:

N1BHI, Andy Morrison
508-481-3878
N1HBR, Walt Ching
508-481-0994

Talkin - 146.61, 449.925, 223.94

The Minuteman

Newsletter of the Minuteman Repeater Association - November 1992
Volume 22 Number 2

Repeater Information:

Weston	146.82	KA1AL/R	PTL	P
Marlboro	146.61	N1BHI/R	FTL	P
Marlboro	449.925	N1HBR/R	FTL	P
Stoneham	146.715	N1DKZ/R	PTL	P
Quincy	146.67	KA1HKP/R	PTL	P
Quincy	224.40	KA1CLX/R	FTL	
Weston	224.70	N1HBR/R	FTL	
Hopkinton	223.94	N1BHI/R	FTL	

FTL=Full Time Linked PTL=Part Time Linked P=Autopatch

Officers and Board of Directors:

President:	Andy Morrison, N1BHI	508-481-3878
Vice President:	Walter Ching, N1BHR	508-481-0994
Secretary:	Frank Morrison, KB1FZ	508-443-6047
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	Scott Bullock, KA1CLX	Mike Ryan, N1KRJ
Newsletter Editor:	Bob Levine, KD1GG	508-485-7006

Membership Meetings: 2nd Monday of Sept, Nov, Jan, Mar, May (except Sept 21 this year) at
Campion Center, Weston at 7:30pm

Board Meetings: 2nd Monday of Oct, Dec, Feb, Apr. Meetings are open and members are welcome.
If a visiting member wants to be on the agenda, please contact Andy Morrison
beforehand.

The MMRA is dedicated to Amateur Radio and the public service. The MMRA is a registered non-profit Massachusetts corporation. Membership is open to all amateurs. Annual dues are \$25.00 individual, \$35.00 family.

Mail Return Address:

MMRA
P.O. Box 2282
Lexington, MA 02173

TO: